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ABSTRACT

Created under the assumption that children develop essential language skills through meaningful interaction with other individuals, this book takes into account many of the current trends in teaching elementary language. Among the primary trends addressed are the social constructivist theory, embedded assessment, the interdisciplinary approach to instruction, and bilingual education. Also included throughout the book are case studies, special feature boxes, "trade secrets" (classroom teachers' successful literacy strategies), classroom management tips, self-surveys, and observation guides. Chapters in the book are: (1) Views of Learning, Language, and Literacy; (2) Oral Language Development; (3) Emergent Literacy; (4) Facilitating Oral Language Learning; (5) Encouraging Emergent Literacy Development; (6) Best Practice in Reading Instruction; (7) Embedded within Reading Workshop: Teaching Meaning and Skills; (8) Teaching Writing the Workshop Way; (9) Embedded within Writing Workshop: Teaching Skills and Meeting Special Needs; (10) Using Literacy to Learn: Integrating the Curriculum; (11) Portfolio Assessment: Determining What Children Know and Can Do; and (12) Parents as Partners in Literacy Education. Contains approximately 500 references. (RS)

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